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from the Savannah River Site

DOE Holds Public Information Workshop on P-Reactor End State

Department of Energy's Savannah River Operations Office will hold a public information workshop to discuss P-Reactor End State on October 16, 2007, at the Aiken Technical College Amphitheater from noon to 4 p.m.

This workshop will provide public information and solicit stakeholder input on the Department's end state decision.

The workshops will also provide local residents with information about the Department's reactor end-state options, reactor fundamentals, assessment modeling approach and a regulatory perspective.

DOE is currently working on deactivating the P-Reactor at the Savannah River Site. P-Reactor is one of five production reactors at SRS and was the site of the cutting-edge neutrino research. In 1956, Dr. Clyde Cowan, Jr., and Dr. Frederick Reines used P Reactor to confirm for the first time the existence of the free neutrino, a sub-atomic particle of extremely small mass. As a result of this work, Dr. Reines won the 1995 Nobel Prize in Physics. In addition to the awarding research P Reactor produced plutonium and tritium for national defense. Built from 1951-54, it was the second of the five reactors to go on-line, running from initial start-up, Feb. 20, 1954, until final shut- down in 1991.

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